

IMU SDG PROGRESS REPORT

on **SDG-13 CLIMATE ACTION**



SDG PROGRESS REPORT

ISTANBUL MEDENIYET
UNIVERSITY

**Istanbul Medeniyet University
Sustainability Office**

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SDG Icons

<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/news/communications-material/>

Sustainable Development Report Maps

<https://dashboards.sdgindex.org/map/>

SDG Statics

<https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/report/2024/>

<https://sdgs.un.org/goals>

FOREWORD

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals adopted by the United Nations in 2015 with the mission statement “a blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all people and the world by 2030” have become guiding principles for all of us as countries, institutions, and individuals today. In this context, the new vision for universities has now shifted from the older scholastic concept of education solely oriented toward professional training to an understanding that prioritizes human and social responsibility. Therefore, universities are central to the achievement of sustainable development goals. Thus, as İstanbul Medeniyet University,

We always consider sustainable development goals in our university’s high-level strategies, organize our management and implementation processes in line with these principles, and follow up on our activities and process of sustainability through reports for continuous improvement. **(OPERATIONS)**

While we help our students gain professional and personal skills and qualifications, we are raising future leaders, decision-makers, entrepreneurs, teachers, and more importantly, individuals with the awareness of creating a better world through the sustainability trainings we include in our course contents. **(LEARNING)**

We carry out a wide range of activities and events to share our knowledge, experience, and best practices about the implementation of SDGs with our students, staff, and local community with the ultimate aim of building a more conscious society. **(EVENTS)**

In 2022, IMU Sustainability Office was established to assume the role to place “Sustainable Development Goals” in the center of our institutional practices, educational planning, and research activities and to lead toward the realization of these goals. IMU Sustainability Office plays a significant part in developing our institutional strategies for SDGs, planning and carrying out our related activities and reporting on our progress. In addition to its contribution to institutional development, the Office also organizes public training programs and workshops.

Our Sustainability Office has planned to create annual sustainability development goals progress reports that will include all the goals and all areas of activity of our university so that we can see our progress in achieving SDGs to create new and better strategies and the report you are reading has been issued for the year 2024 as a result of these efforts. I thank everyone who have contributed to the creation of the report and especially Res.Asst. Ayça ÇELİKBİLEK, Lect. Zehra SAVAN and Res.Asst. Furkan ERUÇAR, who have edited and published all the content for our SDG website and our reports. I hope that our efforts will inspire new ideas, actions, and collaborations to take action for a more sustainable and livable future.

Prof. Dr. Yaşar BÜLBÜL

Vice-Rector and Sustainability Office Coordinator
İstanbul Medeniyet University

The Times Higher Education Impact Rankings, which assesses the contribution of universities around the world to sustainable development goals, has been an important source of motivation for us to see our place in the world and measure our contribution with all the activities we carry out for sustainable development as a higher education institution. As Istanbul Medeniyet University, we were included in THE Impact Ranking for the first time in 2021 by applying with only 4 SDGs, while we applied with 11 SDGs for 2024, being ranked 601-800 in the global ranking. The table below shows IMU's continued rise on this ranking.

Sustainable Development Goals	THE Impact Rankings 2025	THE Impact Rankings 2024	THE Impact Rankings 2023	THE Impact Rankings 2022	THE Impact Ranking 2021
General Ranking	401-600	601-800	801-1000	1001+	1001+
SDG 1 No Poverty	801-1000	601-800	601-800	-	-
SDG 2 Zero Hunger	301-400	301-400	401-600	401+	301-400
SDG 3 Good Health and Well-being	401-600	301-400	301-400	401-600	401-600
SDG 4 Quality Education	801-1000	1001-1500	801-1000	801-1000	601-800
SDG 5 Gender Equality	1001-1500	801-1000	801-1000	-	-
SDG 8 Decent Work and Economic Growth	601-800	401-600	401-600	401-600	-
SDG 9 Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure	601-800	801-1000	601-800	601+	-
SDG 10 Reduce Inequalities	401-600	401-600	401-600	401-600	-
SDG 11 Sustainable Cities and Communities	401-600	601-800	401-600	601+	-
SDG 12 Responsible Consumption and Production	101-200	201-300	201-300	-	-
SDG 15 Life on Land	101-200	-	-	-	-
SDG 17 Partnerships for the Goals	301-400	401-600	601-800	1001+	601-800

13 CLIMATE ACTION





There is no country in the world that is not experiencing first-hand the drastic effects of climate change. Greenhouse gas emissions continue to rise, and are now more than 50 percent higher than their 1990 level. Further, global warming is causing long-lasting changes to our climate system, which threatens irreversible consequences if we do not take action now.

The annual average losses from tsunamis, tropical cyclones and flooding amount to hundreds of billions of dollars, requiring an investment of US\$6 billion annually in disaster risk management alone. The goal aims to mobilize \$100 billion annually by 2020 to address the needs of developing countries and help mitigate climate-related disasters. Helping more vulnerable regions, such as land locked countries and island states, adapt to climate change must go hand in hand with efforts to integrate disaster risk measures into national strategies. It is still possible, with the political will and a wide array of technological measures, to limit the increase in global mean temperature to two degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels. This requires urgent collective action.

+1.1°C

warming caused by human activities since the industrial age

26
TRILLION \$

in economic benefits could be triggered through bold climate action, by 2030

113
MILLION

people affected by disasters from 2015 to 2022

+20
CM

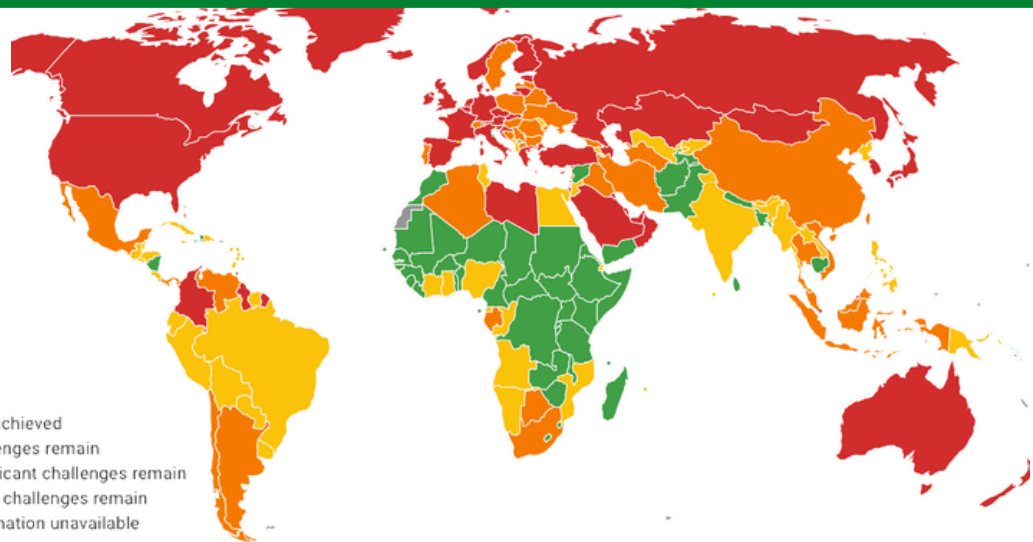
the global average sea level rose since 1880

85
COUNTRIES

have national disaster risk reduction strategies aligned to the Sendai Framework

Legend

- SDG achieved
- Challenges remain
- Significant challenges remain
- Major challenges remain
- Information unavailable





university climate ambassador



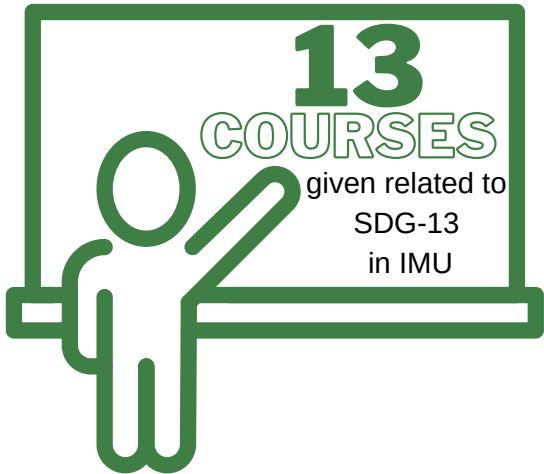
3 local training programs on
climate were organized in
2024



90+ environmental trainings
were held in 2024

LEARNING

Learning processes are key in achieving SDGs. Thus, universities play a critical role both by training professionals who will prioritize SDGs in their future practices and by increasing local, national, and global capacity to successfully achieve SDGs. As Istanbul Medeniyet University, we are aware of our critical role and therefore, we primarily inform our students, the leaders and decision-makers of the future, about the Sustainable Development Goals through course contents, co-curricular activities and student club activities and strengthen their awareness. For this purpose, each of our faculties and departments prepares SDG-related course contents, including courses that address the Sustainable Development Goals holistically, as well as specific contributions that can be made by the expertise of the relevant professional field in which they provide training. In 2024, 13 courses related to SDG-13 were given at IMU. Some of these are listed below.



Faculty	Course
Arts and Humanities	SOS324 - Environmental Sociology
	FEL458 - Bioethics and Environmental Philosophies
Education Sciences	ECE007 - Environmental Education and Sustainability in Early Childhood
	EBB061 - Sustainable Development and Education
Engineering and Natural Sciences	BYM313 - Industrial Ecology and Recycling
	BYM317 - Biomaterials
Health Sciences	BES249 - Ecology of Nutrition
	BES327 - Sustainable Diets and Food Systems
Political Science	ULI462 - Environmental Problems and the World
	MLY411 - Environmental Protection and Taxation
All - Elective	IMU071-Introduction to Sustainability
	IMU055 - Society and Ethics
Law	HUK342 - Environmental Law

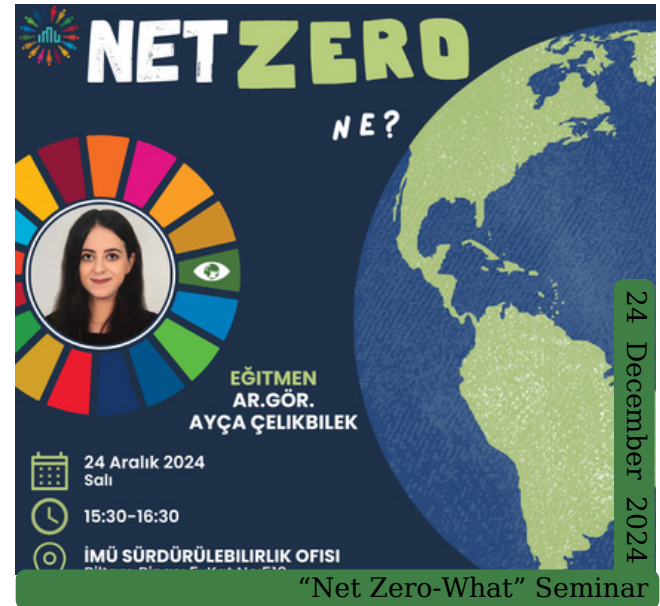
Local Education Programmes on Climate

İMÜ Sustainability Student Club, in collaboration with the Sustainability Office, organized a seminar series named **“Net Zero”** to build climate change literacy. The training module prepared by the Institute for Advanced Studies in Sustainability at the United Nations University was narrated by Res.Asst. Ayça ÇELİKBİLEK from the Sustainability Office. Within the scope of İMÜ Sustainability Week’24 activities, the seminars were held in 3 sessions on Tuesday, December 24, Wednesday, December 25 and Friday, December 27, and were held both face-to-face at the Sustainability Office and online.

The seminar series, which was implemented to support climate change literacy, was also designed as an environmental training that equips participants with the skills and knowledge they need to make informed decisions, take action and combat the climate crisis. Throughout the seminar series, participants were provided with a scientific foundation on climate change and net zero concepts.

In the first seminar held on Tuesday, December 24, ÇELİKBİLEK stated that the 6th report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) published in 2023 clearly revealed that the greenhouse gas emissions released into the atmosphere as a result of human activities cause global warming, and drew attention to the fact that changes in land use, fossil fuel consumption, global consumption patterns and fast consumption-oriented lifestyle rapidly

increase greenhouse gas emissions. However, she stated that research conducted in the last few decades has revealed that global warming and its effects caused by these greenhouse gases emitted into the atmosphere cannot be solved only by reducing emissions. She underlined that these efforts should be supported by the capture of greenhouse gases released into the atmosphere. In addition to natural carbon sinks such as forests and oceans, carbon capture and storage (CCS) technologies can also be utilized for this purpose. At this point, after noting that many countries, even companies at lower scales, have initiated carbon offset programs, she stated that these strategies are carried out in two categories: “net zero” and “carbon neutral”. ÇELİKBİLEK stated that these two concepts are often used in the same sense; however, both concepts characterize different things in the literature.



On Wednesday, December 25, the second seminar addressed the compounding impacts of climate change on the environment and daily life and discussed the roles of different actors in creating and implementing net zero solutions.

ÇELİKBİLEK stated that climate change may have many environmental impacts such as loss of biodiversity; extreme disaster events such as heat waves, storms, floods and droughts, sea level rise and food shortages, and that according to IPCC data, approximately 3.5 million people live in environments that are highly vulnerable to climate change. However, she emphasized that although environmental impacts are often emphasized, climate change has socio-economic impacts and these impacts lead to significant inequalities. In particular, she stated that adverse conditions in the agriculture, forestry, fisheries, energy and tourism sectors will cause economic damage, which will affect the income status of families and lead to extreme poverty, and this poverty will reduce people's access to health. She also pointed out that rising temperatures will increase the spread of diseases such as malaria and dengue fever, and that reduced access to health will exacerbate this situation. Therefore, families experiencing economic hardship may be forced to migrate and all these problems will negatively affect mental health.

On Friday, December 27, the third seminar focused on larger-scale solutions such as lifestyle choices, practical tips and the pros and cons of switching to renewable energy that can be adopted to reduce carbon footprint.

ÇELİKBİLEK started the seminar by explaining that the sectors with the highest level of carbon emissions are energy production, industry and agriculture/forestry/fishing, but that this ranking varies according to the level of development of countries and their main sectors. She then explained the concept of carbon footprint, which corresponds to "the amount of carbon dioxide produced directly or indirectly as a result of an activity or throughout the life cycle of a product". ÇELİKBİLEK shared methods on how people can measure their carbon footprint and shared information on how to reduce carbon footprint. ÇELİKBİLEK stated that single-use plastic bottled water has 285 times more carbon footprint than drinking water from the tap, and that habits that will reduce the amount of single-use plastic such as carrying water canteens and cloth bags; sustainable transportation preferences such as using public transportation and bicycles instead of single passenger cars; and switching to renewable energy sources such as water, wind, solar and geothermal energy will play an important role in reducing people's carbon footprint.

Istanbul Medeniyet University is well aware of the importance of collective climate action to reduce the effects of climate change. Since raising awareness on this issue in the local community is key for these efforts, we regularly organize environmental and sustainable development trainings for our students, staff, and the public in partnership with non-governmental organizations.

IMU Sustainability Office took part in the Environment Festival organized by Kadıköy Municipality annually as part of World Environment Day events and provided educational programmes about ecosystems. IMU Sustainability Office conducted environment training games and workshops for local participants in the festival. Through these games and workshops held from May 31 to June 02, 2024, the team members, Res.Asst. Ayça ÇELİKBİLEK, Lect. Zehra SAVAN, and Res.Asst. Furkan ERUÇAR, discussed ways to develop sustainable practices in cities and improve waste management in order to create more sustainable cities and communities with the participants.

On the first day of the festival, the team raised awareness among children and youth about ecosystem and biodiversity with the game **"Nature Detectives"** designed for children. The game was played for three times during the day in Selamiçeşme Özgürlük Park, where the festival was held.

In the game, children were given target cards consisting of flora and fauna items that could be found in the park area. The children, who were grouped in such a way that each group was accompanied by an instructor, were asked to discover and find the targets on these cards. For each target found, workshop instructors ÇELİKBİLEK, SAVAN and ERUÇAR informed the children about the characteristics of the species and its importance in the ecosystem. Children were provided with basic information about nutritional relationships between species, invasive species and threatened species. Children were made aware of the fact that there is an important species richness even in the parks where they play and the importance of protecting these areas for the survival of biodiversity. After the game, each group received gifts prepared by our University and plants planted in pots by the Sustainability Office to grow in their classrooms.



"Nature Detectives" Game

EVENTS

During the festival, the Sustainability team also played with the booth visitors the **"Waste Sorting Game"** designed and produced by the team. The game provided information on important issues of waste management such as the waste sorting system implemented in Turkey within the scope of zero waste program; recyclable and non-recyclable wastes; and the issues to be considered when throwing waste into waste bins for recycling. The team played the game with children in which waste was sorted through examples. The sustainability team made explanations about the common misconceptions about recycling and emphasized that waste should be disposed of cleanly in waste bins in order to be recycled. Thanks to the Waste Sorting Game, 108 children were trained on waste sorting during the festival.

IMU Sustainability Office also organized an hour-long **TABUSUS** workshop at the booth representing our University in the festival area to raise awareness about sustainable development goals. TABUSUS, a word game designed by Ayça ÇELİKBİLEK, research assistant at IMU Sustainability Office, and developed together with the office team, taught participants the basic concepts of sustainability through gamification. TABUSUS game design goes beyond a word-telling game and the game is also an environmental education. The words presented as banned words on the game cards are including the concept names such as climate crisis and climate awareness to teach them the participants. For this reason, some cards actually contain words or statistical information that people may never use when explaining the keyword.

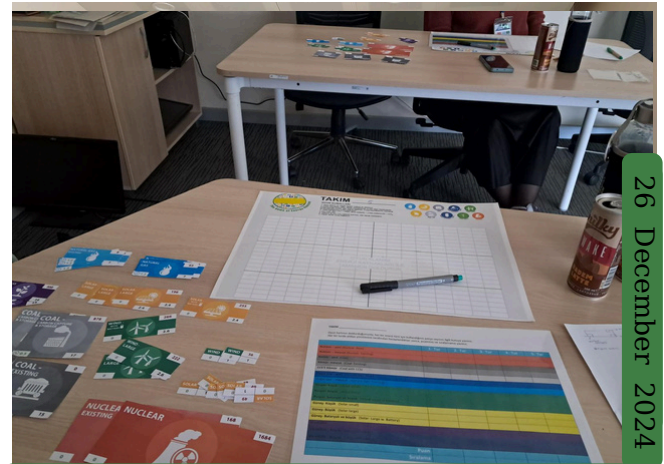


A workshop on renewable and clean energy production was organized by IMU Sustainability Office in cooperation with Sustainability Student Club on December 26, 2024, as part of the **“4th Istanbul Medeniyet University Sustainability Week”** activities. In the workshop conducted by our university Sustainability Office Research Assistant Ayça ÇELİK BİLEK, **“ElectriCITY: Energy Preferences Game”**, a role game in which participants would produce energy policies as decision makers in the city’s energy production, was played. The workshop was open to the participation of all Istanbul Medeniyet University students, staff and the public.

In the workshop, general information about the energy system used in cities and energy management was given. In this context, participants were informed about primary energy sources, including fossil fuels, renewable energy sources and other energy sources. Then, the technologies and facilities that convert these primary energy sources into usable energy were mentioned and the energy sources through which these facilities generate electricity and which end-use sectors such as commerce, industry, transportation and housing are provided with energy. Following this information through the Sankey diagram, the participants discussed where the electricity generated from which energy sources is used, the amount of energy that energy sources can produce and the amount of energy lost (energy efficiency). Finally, in order to understand why energy policies are important for the environment, participants were informed about the air pollutants,

greenhouse gases, water consumption caused by fuel choice in energy production. This helped participants understand the importance of energy management in the global climate crisis.

In the second part of the workshop, the participants were introduced to the game, which is a simple simulation of the energy system in cities, and the rules of the game were explained. The participants were divided into five groups, each representing a city with different resources. The game, which was designed as a simulation of real life, was played in 6 different stages in which carbon costs gradually increased, carbon emissions were kept within a certain limit, water consumption was kept within a certain limit, and different political and economic conditions developed for each group. In each stage, it was discussed how the changes in political, economic and environmental conditions were reflected in the energy policies produced by the groups and how these policies were reflected in environmental costs in addition to construction and operating costs.



ElectriCITY: Energy Preferences Game

26 December 2024

EVENTS

IMU

IMU Sustainability Club and Sustainability Office realized a social responsibility project to draw attention to the carbon emissions and environmental footprint of the internet and the systems that support it. On March 16, 2024, **Digital Cleanup Day**, the project team provided information about the carbon emissions caused by digital activities such as search engine searches, watching videos on the internet, sending sms and e-mails. The information sent to the account sustainable_imu was used to calculate the carbon emissions caused by people's daily e-mail exchanges throughout the day. In addition, people were also informed about the equivalents of this carbon emission to the use of plastic bags, cardboard cups and cars, and suggested activities they could do to reduce this impact.

The team stated that a person's internet use causes an average of 414kg of carbon emissions annually and has an impact on climate change. The carbon footprint of the internet and the systems that support it accounts for 3.7% of global carbon emissions. Although digital pollution is not yet an issue that people are aware of, it is estimated that by 2025, the energy needed to store digital data will be equal to 1/5 of all carbon emissions worldwide. Stating that digital cleaning should be done regularly to reduce the environmental pollution caused by digital pollution, the team made suggestions such as deleting applications that are no longer used; unsubscribing from mailing lists that are no longer active; deleting digital data sources such as photos, videos and e-mails that are not needed; using antivirus programs and reviewing message permissions.

Uygulamalar
Kullanmadığınız uygulama, fotoğraf ve videoları silin

Bilgisayar
Çift dosyaları ve artık kullanmadığınız dosyaları silin

E-posta
Aktif olmadığınız mail üyeliklerinizi ve artık ihtiyocunuz olmayan e-postaları silin

Bulut
Grup çalışmalarınız için ekleri e-posta ile göndermek yerine buluta yükleyin

Sunum
Sunumlarınızı çevrim içi platformlar yerine bilgisayarınızdaki uygulamalarda hazırlayın

Mail Ekleri
E-postalarınızı cevaplarken karşıdan gelen ekleri silin

DİJİTAL TEMİZLİK İÇİN 10 ÖNERİ

Dosya Boyutu
Sakladığınız ve gönderdiğiniz dosyaları sıkıştırılmış biçimde kaydetmeyi tercih edin

İletişim İzni
<https://vatandas.iys.org.tr> üzerinden gerekli görmediğiniz aboneliklerinizi kaldırın

Antivirüs
Antivirüs programları indirin ve Spamlerden kurtulun

SMS
SMS kutunuzu temizleyin

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DİJİTAL TEMİZLİK GÜNÜ 16 Mart

16 March 2024

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İMÜ SÜSTAYİBİLİTE KLUBU
İMÜ SÜSTAYİBİLİTE OFİSİ

Digital Cleanup Day

EVENTS

IMU

Since it was first incorporated into the sustainability agenda in 2007, "Earth Hour" has been known for the "lights off" moment, with individuals from around the globe switching off their lights to show symbolic support for the planet and to raise awareness of the environmental issues affecting it.

Istanbul Medeniyet University turned off the lights on March 23, 2024 Saturday evening for **Earth Hour awareness**. Joining the awareness raising movement by responding the call of IMU Sustainability Office, our university switched off the lights in IMU Ziraat Bank Library, the largest university library in Turkey, at the Earth Hour from 20.30 to 21.30 and invited its staff and students to give an hour of their Saturday night for Earth, spending 60 minutes doing something – anything – positive for the planet.



To raise awareness about Earth Hour, IMU Sustainability Office also posted information on its instagram account about what the Earth Hour is and how people from all around the world join the events and the audience were given suggestions on what to do on Earth Hour for the good of the planet.

